

TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Chair, I support the Neugebauer amendment because it will force the Conference Committee to deal with the use of enterprise guarantee fees in the Highway Bill. I do not necessarily oppose the reduction of dividends paid by the Federal Reserve to the largest banks.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM
WHIPP

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished veteran from my district in Massachusetts: William David Whipp. This Veterans Day, Mr. Whipp will be recognized by the Dartmouth Veteran's Advisory Council for his outstanding service during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

Born in 1926, Mr. Whipp joined the Army soon after his eighteenth birthday on April 11, 1944. Following his basic military training as an infantry scout, Mr. Whipp was assigned to the 11th Infantry Regiment of the 76th Infantry Division and deployed as a Private First Class to Western Europe as part of the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater of Operations in World War II.

It was during Mr. Whipp's deployment to Ardennes that the Germans launched one of the most brutal offensive campaigns against Allied forces in this densely forested region. Known as the Battle of the Bulge, this bloody ground offensive claimed over 19,000 American lives—more than any other single battle in World War II. Surviving this fierce surprise attack and the ensuing counteroffensive by Allied forces, Mr. Whipp went on to serve through the end of World War II until, having received, among other medals and awards, the illustrious Bronze Star for his actions during battle, Mr. Whipp received an honorable discharge in January of 1946.

Upon the conclusion of the war and his return home, Mr. Whipp has been viewed by the citizens of Dartmouth and the Commonwealth as a leader, a trusted civil servant, and a friend to the community. His guidance on several Town Boards over the last twenty years has contributed significantly in improving the lives of everyone in Southeastern Massachusetts and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Whipp for his years of service to a grateful nation. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him for receiving this recognition and in humbly thanking him for all that he has done for his country.

CELEBRATING THE STATE CHAMPION
MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Marian High School

Knights for their victory in the IHSAA Class 1A Boys Soccer State Championship. Hard work and dedication led the Knights to this victory and allowed them to finish out the season with twenty wins, eight of which were shutouts, and two losses. The championship game was the team's first appearance in the state finals and is their first state title.

During the championship game, Marian senior Augie Hartnagel started off with high intensity, scoring a goal within the first 20 minutes. The team took this momentum and scored two more goals, made by Kevin Torres and Jordan Morris. The team finished with 24 shots to Cardinal Ritter High School's four and a 3-0 victory.

I also would like to highlight the many players who were honored for their performance in the tournament. Seniors Richie Ontiveros and lead scorer Augie Hartnagel were named to the Northern Indiana Conference's First Team, Kevin Torres and Cristian Juarez were named to the NIC's Second Team, and Christian Verstraete received Honorable Mention. Keeper Michael Cataldo also walked away with eight shutouts for the season.

I want to congratulate Coach Ben Householter on this victory, which is truly a testament to his dedication to the boys' soccer program. This win gave Householter his first state championship in 18 years as head coach and earned him recognition throughout the entire conference as Northern Indiana Conference Coach of the Year.

The Knights' level of excellence as a whole is a reflection of the individual players and their desire for success and dedication to hard work. This victory is a result not only from talent, but also from hours of practice, strategic planning, and fine tuning the skills of each player. I look forward not only to cheering for the Knights in the future, but to cheering on the men of this year's team as they pursue their goals in the years to come. I have every confidence that they will succeed.

Congratulations to the entire team for their contributions: Kevin Torres-Villa, Christian Verstraete, Richie Ontiveros, Augie Hartnagel, Carlos Torres, Nate Pullin, Lorenzo Martinez, Michael Wuszke, Michael Cataldo, Max Frausto, Justin Saavedra, Alex Kokot, Cristian Juarez, Oscar Tavarez, Johnathan Tavarez, Roberto Ontiveros, Jordan Morris, Alex Rodela, Will Tiller, De'Quarius Strowder, Dennis Mammolenti, Gabriel Martinez, Juan Botello, Adam Evans, Alfredo Medina, Jonathan Magallon, Head Coach Ben Householter, Assistant Alfredo Juarez, Assistant Coach John Jonas, Assistant Coach Matt Englert, Manager Chloe Householter, Manager Jenna Householter, Athletic Trainer Anne Micinski, Assistant Athletic Director Linda Martin, Athletic Director Reggie Glon, and Principal Mark Kirzeder.

The Knights' dedication and sacrifices have truly paid off, and is a source of pride for the entire city and Indiana. This is truly an exciting victory and this is a memory these students will have for a lifetime. On behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Indiana, I applaud Coach Householter for building this program, thank the student athletes for their determination, and congratulate them all on an amazing season. It is my honor to represent Marian High School, and I wish continued success to the team and each of its members in their future endeavors.

DEMANDING ACCOUNTABILITY:
EVALUATING THE TRAFFICKING
IN PERSONS REPORT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I convened an oversight hearing on the 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report. Far more than simply ink on paper, this report has proven to be both prize and prod: a prize for those countries whose progress in the fight against the grave abuse of human trafficking the report acknowledges, a prod to those nations that are failing the trafficking victims within their borders.

The power of the report lies in its credibility. And the credibility of the report lies in its accuracy. We must get the report right, or we will lose the most effective tool we have to help the more than 20 million victims of trafficking enslaved around the world today.

Some countries openly credit the TIP Report for their increased and effective anti-trafficking response. Over the last 14 years, more than 100 countries have enacted anti-trafficking laws, and many countries have taken other steps required to significantly raise their tier rankings: Tier 1 for those who fully meet minimum standards, Tier 2 for those who are making significant efforts to meet minimum standards, and Tier 3 for those who are not making significant efforts to meet minimum standards and, indeed, may be subject to sanctions.

And for those in a purgatory between Tier 2 and 3, Congress in 2003 created a "Tier 2 Watch List" for those which may have undertaken significant anti-trafficking steps late in the evaluation year. Unfortunately, this ranking has been misused to allow countries to escape accountability.

I held the hearing yesterday due to well-founded concern that some of the rankings in the most recent report are grossly inaccurate and greatly undermine the credibility of the report.

Indeed, we have massive grade inflation for certain favored countries, thereby defeating accountability, and demoralizing countries that actually made significant progress last year.

The State Department heard from many House members—161 to be exact—when it was leaked that Malaysia was upgraded this year from Tier 3 to the Tier 2 Watch List.

The report justified the upgrade because Malaysia introduced—but did not pass—an amendment to their trafficking law, and allowed a limited number of their trafficking victims to work outside of detention, while keeping the rest of the victims in detention.

These incomplete actions pale in comparison to the size of Malaysia's trafficking problems. Malaysia was the subject of a Reuters investigative report in 2014, which found that human traffickers were keeping hundreds of Rohingya refugees from Burma captive in houses in northern Malaysia, beating them, depriving them of food, and demanding a ransom from their families.

At least two million vulnerable migrants work in the informal economy in Malaysia. NGOs on the ground tell us that traffickers operate openly and with impunity. And that those who get in their way are killed.